

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: October 10, 1962

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: ROBERT GREENE
 NEWSDAY
 GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK
 REQUEST FOR STATEMENT FROM DIRECTOR

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Malone _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Newsday
 Garden City,
 N.Y.

Robert Greene, a reporter with "Newsday," Garden City, New York, called and talked with SA C. Benjamin Fulton in my office.

He stated "Newsday" was planning a series of articles relating to the talk made by Judge Bernard S. Meyer, New York Supreme Court, before the convention of the Associated Press Managing Editors last week in Minneapolis. Judge Meyer, in brief, advocated legislation limiting pre-trial publication of stories which might be prejudicial to a fair trial. He had in mind limiting reporting before trial of the accused's prior criminal record or alleged conversations or opinions of guilt. He would also eliminate interviews with the victims family prior to trial. Most of the newsmen, of course, were dead set against Judge Meyer's position. Greene advised that "Newsday," in the series, would attempt to point up the fallacy of Judge Meyer's proposal and would be against such laws. He said he would like a statement from the Director which could be used in the series pertaining to the necessity for freedom of the press.

The Director's long-standing position and policy of not injecting himself or the FBI into legislative matters such as this were explained to Greene. Greene advised that he could understand the Director's position and why it would not be possible for Mr. Hoover to give him a statement for use in the series. He said he would, therefore, withdraw the request.

We, of course, have had excellent relations with "Newsday," and Greene has authored many stories favorable to the FBI in the past.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

1 - Mr. Morrell

CBF:jcs
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CRIME RESEARCH

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